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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/768,975	01/23/2001	Stephen P. Williams	Q01-1000-US1	2314

7590 07/29/2003

Steven G Roeder
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La Jolla, CA 92037

EXAMINER

BLOUIN, MARK S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2653

DATE MAILED: 07/29/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/768,975

Applicant(s)

WILLIAMS ET AL.

Examiner

Mark Blouin

Art Unit

2653

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 May 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 6,9-11,13 and 22-74 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 6,9-11,13,22-27,30-34,37-39,46,47,50,51,53-55,57-64,67-70,72, and 74 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 28,29,35,36,40-45,48,49,52,56,65,66,71 and 73 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 10.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Detailed Action

Response to Amendment

- Applicant's election with traverse has been considered, and request for restriction requirement to be withdrawn of the last Office action is persuasive, therefore, Claims 6, 9-11,13, and 22-74 will be addressed in this Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 6,9-11,13,22-27,30-34,37-39,46,47,50,51,53-55,57-64,67-70,72, and 74 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Imamura et al. (EPN 549 814 A1).
3. Regarding Claims 6,9-11,13,22,37,50, and 59, Imamura et al. shows (Figs. 1 and 2) head stack assembly (ASSY) for a disc drive including a storage disc (D), the head stack assembly comprising an actuator arm (A), a coarse positioner that moves the actuator arm relative to the storage disk (SM), a transducer assembly (Fig. 3) including a load beam (Fig. 3, (2)), a flexure (3) secured to the load beam, a data transducer (4) secured to the flexure (3), a base plate (Fig. 4A,(1)) securing the transducer assembly to the actuator arm (A), and a fine positioner (piezoelectric elements,(14)) secured directly to the base plate, the fine positioner moving a portion of the base plate relative to the actuator arm, wherein the base plate further comprises a positioner cavity (Fig. 4B, (12a)) that receives the fine positioner (14), a flex section (Fig. 8, (11)) positioned adjacent to the positioner cavity, the flex section allowing the base plate to flex,

Art Unit: 2653

a pair of spaced apart positioner cavities (Fig. 4B, (12a)) that receive the fine positioner (14), a pair of flex sections (Fig. 8, (10,11)) that allow the base plate to flex, wherein the positioner cavities are positioned between the flex sections, wherein the flex sections are positioned between the positioner cavities, wherein the fine positioner moves the transducer assembly substantially transversely relative to the actuator arm (Fig. 28), further comprising a control system (Col. 2, lns. 24-35) that directs current to the coarse positioner to move the actuator arm so that the data transducer is positioned near or on the target track and directs current to the fine positioner to selectively move the base plate so that the data transducer is positioned and maintained on the target track during rotation of the storage disk, wherein the fine positioner is a piezoelectric motor (14).

4. Regarding Claims 23-27, 53, 54, 57, and 60-64, Imamura et al. shows (Fig.5) the base plate includes a pair of flex sections that allow the base plate to flex, and wherein at least one or each of the piezoelectric motors is positioned substantially between the flex sections, and at least one of or each of the flex sections are positioned between the pair of piezoelectric motors, wherein at least one of the piezoelectric motor(s) do not contact either of the flex sections.

5. Regarding Claims 30 and 31, Imamura et al. shows (Fig. 4A) the base plate includes a plate mount (16) that secures the base plate to the actuator arm, wherein one of the piezoelectric motors, positioned parallel to each other (Fig.14) is secured to the base plate substantially between the plate mount and the data transducer.

6. Regarding Claims 32,39, and 51 Imamura et al. shows (Fig. 4A and B) at least one of the piezoelectric motors includes a proximal end and a distal end, and wherein only the proximal end

Art Unit: 2653

and a distal end are the only portions of at least one of the piezoelectric motor that contact the base plate.

7. Regarding Claims 33,34,46,47,55 and 58, Imamura et al. shows (Figs. 13 and 14) the flex section is substantially "U" or "V" shaped.

8. Regarding Claims 67-70,72, and 74, are drawn to a method of retrieving data from a target track on a rotating storage disk of a disk drive using the aforementioned apparatus. The limitations of the method claims are met and are anticipated by Imamura et al. when the apparatus operates.

Allowable Subject Matter

9. Claims 28,29,35,36,40-45,48,49,52,56,65,66,71, and 73 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

10. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 6 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

11. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

Art Unit: 2653

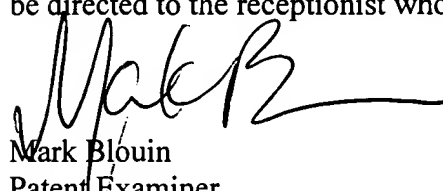
the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

12. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Zhang et al. (USPN 6,396,667) is cited to show a disk drive with a microactuator and suspension system.

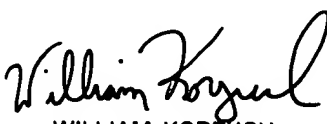
13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark Blouin whose telephone number is (703) 305-5629. The examiner can normally be reached M-F, 6:00 am – 3:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful the examiner's supervisor, William Korzuch can be reached at (703) 305-6137. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9314 for regular and After Final communications.

Any inquiry of general nature or relating to the status of application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.



Mark Blouin
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2653
July 16, 2003



WILLIAM KORZUCH
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